Abstract

1   A methodology for enabling terminals that perform forward error correction to interoperate

2   with terminals that perform automatic-repeat-request is disclosed. This is advantageous because it

3   does not require that all of the terminals be upgraded at once, which is an all-to-common fact of many

4   migration paths. In accordance with the illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the legacy

5   terminals communicate with a data frame that conforms to a legacy data frame format and the

6   upgraded terminals communicate with a data frame that conforms to an upgraded data frame format,

7   which is a legacy-compatible extension of the legacy data frame format. The legacy data frame format

8   enables the detection, but not correction, of errors in a data frame and the upgraded data frame format

9   enables the correction of errors in the data frame.